

Make ‘n Take

Name of Make ‘n Take: “So What Did You Learn At School Today?”

Theme & Topic: **Revival of the Treaty Relationship: Living in Harmony- The Restoration of First Nations Languages and Cultures**

Names of Teachers: Jeff LaRocque, Gerry Kot

Name of School: St. Marguerite, St. Matthew, Regina Catholic Schools

Grade: Six

Date: June 3, 2009

Pre-requisite Learning:

Some knowledge of past residential school experiences.

Procedure:

Simulation & Role Play

1. Tell the students that their schools have experienced a multitude of problems and have been deemed obsolete. The schools are closing.
2. The newcomers’ children have been asked to attend reserve schools between the ages of 6-16 years of age. (How do you feel? Will you miss your parents?)
3. Unfortunately, the newcomer students will not have access to Facebook, cell phones, e-mails or text messages to any family member for 10 months for each year of schooling. How do you feel? What would you feel like if you had no brothers and sisters at your reserve school?
4. Your language is solely Cree. Your previous English language will not be tolerated. (Put yourself in this situation. You will be given a dozen Cree phrases. Would you find it easy to ask for a drink or ask to use the washroom?)

5. The newcomer customs such as “hello” and high 5’s will be eliminated. (What will you do in order to meet people?)
6. First Nation spiritual ceremonies such as: sweat lodges and traditional feast ceremonies will become part of your life experiences. (Research Cree sweat lodges and traditional feast ceremonies).
7. Newcomer dancing will cease to exist and the only dancing at reserve schools will be to the beat of a drum. (Break dancing and hip hop will result in punishment. How will this affect you?)
8. Corporal punishment may be the result of poor behaviour. (Is this something you are worried about? Did corporal punishment exist in the schools you attended?)